Statement

About 10,000 new telephone connections are proposed to be provided during the current year at the following places *in Orissa.*

1. Bhubaneswar
2. Berhampur
3. Rourkela Plant
4. Rourkela T. Ship
5. Cuttack (RLU)
6. Cuttack (CRLU)
7. Balasore
8. Bhadrak
9. Baripada
10. Chandipur
11. Puri
12. Jatani
13. Khurda
14. Dhenkanal
15. Keonjhar
16. Damanjodi
17. Koraput
18. Kantabanji
19. Titilagarh
20. Bhawanipatna
21. Khariar Road
22. Kesinga
23. Dhanmondal
24. Paradeep
25. Rajgangpur
26. Kalunga
27. Bargarh
28. Jharauguda
29. Padampur
30. Barapalli

Use of Fax Machine for Delivery of Money Orders

75. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 501 given in the Rajya Sabha on 14th July, 1992 and state:

(a) Whether the examination of the proposal to use fax machines for quick delivery of money orders has been completed; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal has been dropped on cost considerations and because of practical difficulties.

Modernisation of Postal Services

76. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up any committee to explore the possibility of modernising the Indian Post Office Act in the light of several countries privatising the postal services; and

(b) if so, what are the relevant details in the this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) A Committee has been constituted to review the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 and make recommendations. The terms of reference of the Committee are:

I. to examine the Act in all the aspects, with particular reference to:

(i) the developments in communication by mail in the country in recent years and the likely trends in the future, and the challenges from them to the Post Office,

(ii) the developments in international postal system and the responsibilities that they impose on the Post Office,

(iii) the difficulties felt by the Post Office in practice on account of the limitations of the Act,

(iv) the needs of the society for different Postal services,

(v) the increasing social awareness as to the obligations of the Postal system and its social accountability, and